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LOCATION OF THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE GROUP

Addendum

The offer of Canada to host the headquarters of the International Copper Study Group in Montreal is set out in this document.

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HEADQUARTERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COPPER STUDY GROUP

Canadian proposal - Montreal

The Société du centre de conférences internationales de Montréal (SCCIM) (Montreal International Conference Centre Corporation) is pleased to submit to members of the International Copper Study Group the following proposal for the location of its headquarters in Montreal.

The SCCIM was founded by the federal, provincial (Quebec) and municipal (Montreal) Governments to promote the establishment of international organizations in Montreal and to plan for the construction of additional international conference facilities of the highest quality.

The SCCIM recognizes and acknowledges the significance and importance of the presence of international organizations such as the International Copper Study Group for the reputation and development of Montreal. The ICSG is considered by Canada and Montreal in particular as an important institution whose presence would enhance a very important sector of the Canadian economy. The organization for its part would stand to benefit from the presence in Montreal and nearby of significant research and technology resources in the field of mining and metals, both in universities and the public and private sectors. Of particular significance is the presence in Montreal of the Canadian Space Agency. Canada's major international contribution in this field is the Radarsat programme, begun in 1981, by the Canadian Teledetection Centre. This new instrument will, among other applications, play a decisive role in world-wide mining and oil prospecting.

The SCCIM has prepared the attached proposals in collaboration and with the full support of senior officials of the federal Department of External Affairs and other federal departments concerned including Energy, Mines and Resources, senior officials of the Ministère des Affaires internationales du Québec (Quebec Department of International Affairs), senior officials of the Secrétariat aux Affaires internationales de Montréal (Montreal International Affairs Secretariat) and the Office of the Mayor of Montreal.

Montreal plays a key role as host of some thirty international organizations including: the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the International Aviation Management Training Institute, the Institute and Centre for Research of Air, Space and Land and the Société internationale de télécommunications aéronautiques (SITA). Montreal was also recently chosen as the location for the new Secretariat of the Ozone Multilateral Fund and the greater metropolitan region of Montreal was recently selected as the site of the new Canadian Space Agency.

The Canadian and Quebec Governments and the City of Montreal have within the last two years implemented new policies to facilitate privileges, immunities and benefits for international non-governmental organizations and international governmental organizations. As will be seen in the attached documentation, the package of benefits offered is one of the most favourable offered by any city in the world (Annex I).

Should the ICSG favourably consider this expression of interest, the Canadian and Quebec Governments would be delighted, following normal negotiations, to provide immunities, privileges, and benefits corresponding to the status of an international governmental organization accorded in Canada.

Finally, the SCCIM, in agreement with the three levels of governments concerned, is prepared to offer to the ICSG's secretariat special assistance as follows:

1) Accommodation

   At an overall value estimated at $200,000 Cdn, fully equipped and operational office accommodation for four/five persons including support staff - during the initial phase of three years.

   Accommodation would be located in first class building, in space occupied by SCCIM (Intercontinental Hotel building centrally located in new and prestigious real estate complex).

   This would include furnishings, furniture and equipment (i.e. telephone installation), use of common services (i.e. receptionist, conference rooms - for up to 30 persons, etc.)

2) An overall contribution of $100,000 for installation and operational costs to be paid in equal annual instalments during each of the first three years of operation. (The possibility of a modified schedule of payments can be envisaged (i.e. $50,000 for the first year and two annual instalments of $25,000 in each of the two following years).

3) Availability of first class large conference facilities at nominal or low cost, i.e. in ICAO building or Palais des Congrés (with sufficient advance notice).

4) Permanent assistance/advice from a senior officer of the SCCIM responsible for important matters relating to the presence of international organizations established in Montreal: relations with government administrations, permanent office accommodation in Montreal, immigration and visa questions, work permits for spouses, etc.

It is our view that Canada is the right choice for the location of the ICSG's headquarters. A recent report issued by the United Nations ranked Canada first among industrial countries, ahead of Japan, Norway, Switzerland and Sweden,in a list established to measure the human development performance of all countries in terms of life expectancy, national income and educational attainment.

Montreal is a particularily attractive option for the ICSG, a major industrial, business and cultural metropolis. A bilingual city with a regional population of 3 million people, Montreal combines high standards of comfort, safety and well-being, with a comparatively reasonable cost of living, affordable housing and first rate transportation facilities. Access to a comprehensive social security system is available to employees of international organizations as is - free of charge - access to the public educational system at the primary and secondary levels, in both English and French. A description of the advantages offered in Montreal is attached (Annex I).

ANNEX 1

Privileges, immunities and tax exemptions

Canadian authorities will offer protection to ensure the inviolability of the premises, property and archives of the Organization.

All officials of international governmental organizations (IGOs) are granted immunity from the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the Canadian courts in relation to actions taken in the course of their duties. Officials of IGOs are exempt from federal income taxes on their salaries and other remuneration received from the IGO. They are also exempt from customs duties on their personal effects, including a vehicle, upon moving to Canada to take up a position with an IGO.

In addition, certain senior officials of IGOs, and their families, are granted in Canada a status equivalent to that of a diplomatic agent. This includes exemption from all direct taxes including the GST, Canada's value added tax. The Canadian Government exonerates dependants of IGO's international civil servants from regulations requiring a student visa or authorization.

The Quebec Government also adheres to international standards guiding financial exemptions from income, consumer and municipal taxes, and establishing legal immunities for IGOs.

With water and service taxes rated at up to 7.5% of a property's rental value, the City of Montreal has resolved to set a $ Cdn 60 yearly ceiling for IGOs established on its territory.

The Quebec Government facilitates easy entry into the province for foreign personnel of IGOs, and their families. It ensures the rapid issue of documents permitting spouses to work, in conformance with provincial regulations. Foreign civil servants' children may attend school in a language other than French, while both spouse and children can qualify for the same education rights granted to Quebec students.

Social measures

With regard to pensions, labour standards, on-the-job health and safety, work injuries, occupational diseases and health insurance, each organization normally has its employees covered by the various Quebec plans and contributes to those plans in accordance with the regulations in force, subject always to social security arrangements the Government of Quebec may agree upon.

Health care services also apply to the spouses and family members referred to above.

Education

In accordance with current regulations, the children of employees referred to above may receive instruction in the language of their choice. Employees, their spouses and their dependent children pay the same school fees or tuition as Quebec residents. (No tuition fees in the public school system at the primary and secondary levels. Enrolment fees, at a reasonable level, about $ Cdn 1200, are charged by universities).